

# Department of Commerce Growth Management Services Planner's Update

A monthly newsletter to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State

**JANUARY 2012 – ISSUE 52**

*Welcome to the Planner's Update, an electronic newsletter from the Department of Commerce, Growth Management Services. We send this newsletter monthly to share helpful information related to planning in Washington State.*

*Please feel free to send us any comments or ideas for how to make this newsletter more useful. You can also use the link below to provide additional names of planners who might like to subscribe.*

*Please also consider sharing this newsletter with planning commissioners.*



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## **SCHEDULES**

[Regional Planners Forums](#)  
[Short Course Schedule](#)

## **QUICK LINKS**

[www.commerce.wa.gov/growth](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/growth)  
[www.washington-apa.org](http://www.washington-apa.org)  
[www.smartgrowth.org](http://www.smartgrowth.org)  
[www.planningpaw.org](http://www.planningpaw.org)  
[www.mrsc.org](http://www.mrsc.org)

## **1. PAW Land Use Boot Camp**

The Planning Association of Washington (PAW) is sponsoring this one-day, intensive training on significant legal issues most frequently encountered in local land use permitting. Perfect for Planning Professionals, Elected and Appointed Officials as well as anyone else seeking to be all they can be local in land use.

### **Topics:**

-Land Use Liability from Negligence through Takings

- First Amendment Rights and RLUIPA: Strip Clubs and Churches
- Equal Protection and FHA: Group Homes and Methadone Clinics
- Finality: Vested Rights Doctrine, Nonconforming Uses, Revisiting Bad Decisions
- Making the Perfect Land Use Hearing Presentation
- Mock Land Use Hearing
- Case Law Update

Renton City Hall  
Council Chambers  
1055 South Grady Way  
Renton, Washington

January 30, 2012  
8:30 am – 5:00 p.m.  
Lunch on your own  
Refreshments Provided

### *6.5 CLE & Legal CM Credits*

#### **Featured Speakers**

Dave Bricklin, Bricklin & Newman LLP • James Driscoll, Mediation Services  
Phil Olbrechts, Olbrechts & Associates PLLC • Mike Walters, Keating Bucklin & McCormack PS  
Greg Rubstello & Scott Snyder, Ogden Murphy Wallace PLLC  
Emily Terrell, AICP Hearing Examiner • Tadas Kisielius, Gordon Derr LLP

#### *Notice!*

*An additional, "Basic" Land Use Seminar will be held on February 29, 2012  
For those wanting a general overview of land use law fundamentals*

Visit [www.planningpaw.org](http://www.planningpaw.org) for more information.

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## **2. Puget Sound Protection and Restoration Grants Awarded**

Last month 23 grant awards, totaling \$6.3 million were announced jointly by the Departments of Commerce and Ecology, for a wide range of projects around Puget Sound to manage land uses to help protect and restore watersheds. The agencies are using Environmental Protection Agency funds for projects by local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations, and conservation districts addressing land use actions, stormwater management, and watershed protection and restoration.

Nine projects focused on land use actions will be granted funds by Commerce. These include projects to increase the use of the transfer of development rights (TDR) to protect working farms and forests and increase development options within existing urban centers; integrating mitigation with TDR to target ecosystem restoration actions in the best locations, to preserve agricultural production and restore areas best suited for wildlife and fish habitat; coordinated agricultural sustainability and land succession planning, reducing barriers to direct markets, and innovative marketing of agritourism; and revising a comprehensive plan based on landscape-scale watershed assessments.

Grantees will be assisted in their projects by a new Watershed Characterization Technical Assistance Team, composed of multiple agency scientists and a land use planner, to apply and build upon a framework of modeled watershed characterizations of water flow, water quality, and wildlife habitat. The models include both ecosystem functions and human alterations, so

that recommended land use actions work with existing ecosystem processes to maintain long term viability.

Additional information is available from Doug Peters at 360.725.3046 or visit the [Puget Sound Watershed Protection & Restoration Grants Webpage](#).

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### **3. Bikes Belong Coalition Offers Funding for Bicycle Advocacy Projects**

The goal of the Bikes Belong Coalition, sponsored by the American bicycle industry, is putting more people on bicycles more often. The Bikes Belong Grants Program provides support for projects that leverage federal funding and build momentum for bicycling in communities across the U.S.

Funded projects can include bike paths and rail trails, as well as bike parks, mountain bike trails, BMX facilities, and bicycle advocacy initiatives. The focus of the facility grant category is to connect existing facilities or create new biking opportunities. The advocacy grant category seeks to support large-scale, innovative, replicable advocacy initiatives that significantly increase ridership and improve conditions for bicycling in big U.S. cities.

**The application deadline is February 29, 2012.**

Visit the [Bikes Belong Coalition website](#) for more information on the program and to submit an online application.

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